

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128855

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: 9:9,, SEATO

SUBJ: ARRANGEMENTS FR 18TH COUNCIL MEETING

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM BANGKOK JUNE 29 REPEATED
FOR YOU:

QUOTE

BANGKOK 10109

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : OCON, SEATO

SUBJECT : ARRANGEMENTS FOR 18TH COUNCIL MEETING

REF: A. BANGKOK 10046

B. STATE 127209

1. AS STATED PARA 6 REFTTEL A, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JUNE 28
LETTER (BEING POUCHED) FROM SEATO SEC GEN SUNTHORN TO SECRETARY
ROGERS CONCERNING PRESENTLY PROPOSED USG AGGANGEMENTS FOR 18TH
COUNCIL MEETING:

DEAR MR. SECRETARY,
REALIZING AS I FULLY DO THE LARGE DEMANDS ON YOUR TIME
AND ATTENTION BY OTHER PROBLEMS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, IT IS WITH
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EXTREME RELUCTANCE THAT I AM HERE TAKING THE LIBERTY OF APPEALING

TO YOU ON A MATTER WHICH IN MY JUDGEMENT IS CRUCIAL. I REFER TO THE QUESTION OF THE ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF SEATO COUNCIL SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK ON 28 SEPTEMBER 1973.

YOU WILL BE AWARE, I AM SURE, THAT WHILE THE CONSENSUS IS TO HOLD THE MEETING DEVOID OF ANY FANFARE AND CEREMONIAL, THERE IS KEENNESS OF THE PART OF MOST, IF NOT ALL, MEMBER GOVERNMENTS THAT THE MEETING BE AN UNABRIDGED ONE AT WHICH SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE.

I AM, THEREFORE, VERY MUCH CONCERNED, MR. SECRETARY, THAT THE ACTUAL SPACE BEING OFFERED AT EITHER OF THE TWO SITES SO FAR SUGGESTED TO US, NAMELY THE UNITED STATES U.N. MISSION BUILDING AND THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION BUILDING, ARE FAR SHORT OF OUR MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, WHICH ARE THEMSELVES ALREADY MUCH LESS THAN THOSE PROVIDED FOR PREVIOUS MEETINGS. WE ESTIMATE THAT, EXCLUSIVE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING ROOM, WE WILL NEED AT LEAST 4,000 SQUARE FEET OF FLOOR SPACE; OF THIS FIGURE, 1,500 PERTAINS TO ROOMS FOR THE SIX DELEGATIONS AND THE BALANCE FOR OFFICE SPACE FOR SEATO AND LOCAL MEETING SUPPORT STAFF. ALTHOUGH INADVISABLE FROM THE SECURITY POINT OF VIEW, SOME DELEGATIONS MAY WELL OPT TO OPERATE FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE U.N. PERMANENT MISSIONS, IN WHICH CASE THE SPACE INTENDED FOR DELEGATIONS COULD PERHAPS BE REDUCED ACCORDINGLY.

I SINCERELY HOPE, MR. SECRETARY, THAT YOU WILL FIND TIME TO INTERCEDE AT THIS TIME IN ORDER THAT PLANNING FOR THE EIGHTEENTH COUNCIL MEETING CAN PROCEED UNHAMPERED TO THE REASONABLE SATISFACTION OF ALL CONCERNED.

I MUST ADD THAT THE GREAT HOSPITALITY AND FRIENDLINESS YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES AFFORDED ME AS THAI AMBASSADOR TO YOUR COUNTRY HAS ALWAYS REMAINED VIVID IN MY MEMORY.

PLEASE ACCEPT MY WARMEST PERSONAL REGARDS.

SINCERELY,

SUNTHORN HONGLADAROM

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2. RE "REQUIRED" FLOOR SPACE CITED PARA 3 OF LETTER, 4,000 SQ. FT. INCLUDES 1,500 SQ. FT. FOR OFFICE SPACE FOR NATIONAL DELEGATIONS, 500 SQ. FT. FOR OFFICE SPACE FOR SEC GEN AND DEPSEC-GEN, AND 2,000 SQ. FT. FOR WORKING SPACE FOR SUPPORT STAFF.

3. EMBASSY SHARES DEPARTMENT VIEW THAT RESOLUTION SEATO'S CONCERNS WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO AWAIT EPSEC GEN VISIT IIE STE

I MID-JULY. MASTERS

UNQUOTE. ROGERS

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